The above figures of revenue and commission are inclusive of cargo and pax agents.

Restriction on concessional passengers on a flight

2559. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) when was the order of restricting the total number of concessional passengers on a flight to 10 came into effect;

(b) whether Government have noticed that this rule has affected the senior citizens, particularly of Karnataka;

(c) if so, the reasons for introducing the above order;

(d) whether power is given to the Airlines staff at Airport to accommodate more senior citizens if the seats are vacant; and

(e) the number of such discretionary quota so far released on the request of Bangalore passengers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) to (e) In order to maximise revenues, numerical restrictions are periodically introduced by Air India for airline staff travelling on free/rebated tickets. Air India has never imposed any restriction on carriage of senior citizens as no concession specific to them is offered by it.

Indian Airlines' Reservation System provides Multi class concept, High Yield class (HY) and Low Yield class (LY). Passengers paying full fare are booked in HY class and concessional passengers are booked in LY class. If close to the departure, seats remain unsold in H Y class, seats are offered to LY class passengers. The scheme was introduced on 1.7.1997. The scheme is applicable on all the flights in the system. In case of vacant seats, airline staff at airport accepts passengers as per their waitlist number. There is no discretionary quota as a general rule.

Revival of minor airports in Andhra Pradesh

2560. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a number of air fields/minor airports of second world was which are lying unused in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any plan to revive them and put them to use for intra-state air travel in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The airports at Donakonda, Cuddapah and Warrangal in Andhra Pradesh are non-operational.

(c) and (d) Airports Authority of India had requested the State Government of Andhra Pradesh to take over these three airports for aviation activities but there has been no response from the State Government.

Open Sky Policy to promote tourism in Andhra Pradesh

2561. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, captioned "Babu demands open sky policy" appearing in the newstimc dated 3rd February, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government would soon announce an open sky policy as a measure to promote tourism in Andhra Pradesh as demanded by its Chief Minister; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) There is almost an open sky policy for foreign tourist charter flights. The principle of reciprocity is not being followed. The only restriction on these flights is that genuine foreign tourists are permitted on these flights. At present, to promote tourism, 12 international airports at Mumbai, Kolkata, Delhi, Chennai. Thiruvananthapuram, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad. Goa, Amritsar, Guwahati, Cochin (Nedumbassery) and also airports at Agra, Varanasi and Jaipur where customs/immigration facilities are available/have